PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,

Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 4, 2003.

Applicant

Timothy A. Ellis, et al.

Application No.:

09/882,154

Filed

June 15, 2001

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A SLIPSHEET REMOVAL SYSTEM

Title Grp./Div.

2854

Examiner

Daniel James Colilla

Docket No.

45224/TJD/O125

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 April 4, 2003

Enclosed is an amendment to the above-identified application.

| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Paid For | Number Extra Claims | Small Entity Rate | Large Entity Rate | FEE |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Total Claims Fee | 35 | * 35 | 0 | x \$9.00 | x \$18.00 | -0- |
| Independent Claims | 5 | ** 4 | 0 | x \$42.00 | 1 x \$84.00 | 84.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims *** | | | | \$140.00 | \$280.00 | -0- |
| TOTAL FILING FEE | | | | | | \$84.00 |
| NO ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED **** | IF NO FEE REQUIRED, INSERT "0" | | | | | |

LIST INDEPENDENT CLAIMS: 1, 12, 15, 26 and 28

- * IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 20 OR LESS, WRITE "20" IN COLUMN 3
- ** IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 3 OR LESS, WRITE "3" IN COLUMN 3
- *** PAY THIS FEE ONLY WHEN MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS ARE ADDED FOR THE FIRST TIME
- **** IF NO FEE REQUIRED, ADDRESS ENVELOPE TO "BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENTS"
- X Attached is our check for \$84.00 to pay the fees calculated above.
- X A Petition for Extension of Time and the required fee are enclosed.
- X Other enclosures: Transmittal of Red-Line Drawings



TJD/edb

EDB PAS497737.1-*-4/4/03 3:47 PM

Amendment Transmittal Letter Application No. 09/882,154

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by or to give effect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account. A copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

Thomas J. Daly

Reg. No. 32,213

626/795-9900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Signature

Applicant

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AMENDMENT

Post Offee Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 April 4, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of November 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 to 12, 15, 17 to 20, 26 and 28. All of pending claims 1 to 35 follow.

1. (Amended) A method for separating a slip sheet from a plate comprising:

directing gas at the plate interface with the slip sheet to create a layer of gas between the plate and the slip sheet; and

directing pulses of gas at the slip sheet to blow the slip sheet into a discarded slip sheet area.

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